

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 2, 2017

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SCAQMD Awards \$8.8 Million for Electric School Buses

The South Coast Air Quality Management District's Governing Board today approved \$8.8 million to purchase 33 battery electric, zero emission buses and charging infrastructure for 16 public school districts and two charter schools.

"The awards will go to school districts in communities heavily affected by air pollution," said SCAQMD Executive Officer Wayne Nastri. "This will help reduce students' and residents' exposure to harmful diesel exhaust."

Since 2001, SCAQMD has provided more than \$280 million to replace or retrofit nearly 5,000 school buses with cleaner models. This is the first time the agency has provided funding for electric school buses.

Under the Carl Moyer Program, each of the following districts will receive a \$536,000 grant that includes \$496,000 to purchase two electric buses and \$40,000 for charging infrastructure:

Anaheim Elementary School District

Anaheim Union High School District

Baldwin Park Unified School District

Bassett Unified School District (La Puente)

Bellflower Unified School District

Coachella Valley Unified School District (Thermal)

Fontana Unified School District

Jurupa Unified School District (Jurupa Valley)

Los Angeles Unified School District

Lynwood Unified School District

Magnolia School District (Anaheim)

Montebello Unified School District

Mountain View School District (El Monte)

Rialto Unified School District

Savanna School District (Anaheim)

The following districts will receive a \$268,000 grant that includes \$248,000 to purchase one electric bus and \$20,000 for charging infrastructure:

Covina Valley Unified School District (Covina) Today's Fresh Start Charter School (Inglewood) Los Angeles Leadership Primary Academy

SCAQMD is providing funds from the Carl Moyer Program and the schools will be required to apply for additional funding through CARB's Hybrid and Zero Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP) to help offset the cost of purchasing the electric buses.

Electric school buses require less maintenance than their diesel counterparts and are less expensive to operate. According to CARB, an electric bus will save participants approximately \$10,521 per year due to lower maintenance and lower electricity costs compared to diesel.

The school buses must be full-size (Type C or Type D,) included on the California Air Resources Board approved list, have a minimum battery range of 60 miles from a single charge, and have a battery warranty of at least five years. School districts will not be required to replace and scrap an older school bus when they purchase a new electric school bus.

The SCAQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties.

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